

# Community Engagement



**Nonantum Community Meeting**  
**February 27, 2013**

# Mayor Warren's Vision



“To live up to our full potential, it is critical to our success that we engage residents and businesses to help Newton be all that it can be, and work together to promote all that Newton has to offer.”

# What is our Mission?



- ❖ Our Mission is to partner with Newton's residents, businesses, and organizations in a sustained campaign to enhance the quality of life in each of our 13 villages.
- ❖ We are working on-the-ground in villages on unique menus of short-term projects and special events that contribute to long-term goals of beautification, safety, and livability.

# Building Partnerships



- Outreach
- Listen to the community needs
- Identify issues
- Use data, maps, and pictures
- Develop a plan of action
- Follow-up meeting
- Work in a collaborative way with businesses, residents, faith-based organizations, community groups, and public officials



# Nonantum Community Meeting, November 28, 2012



- Approx. 40 residents and business owners attended
- What is special about Nonantum that you want to preserve?
- What are your concerns?
- How can the City partner with you?



# What we heard



- What is special about Nonantum?
  - The Aldermen and the people
  - Coletti-Magni Park
- What are the concerns in the community?
  - Sidewalk conditions
  - Crosswalks
  - Traffic calming and speeding
  - No signage for municipal parking
  - Cars parked on sidewalks
  - Tree planting
  - Wayfinding signs/missing stop signs
  - Business façade improvements, sign violations (store windows and sandwich boards)

# What we did



- Walk through Nonantum
- Identified the areas discussed at the meeting
- Took photographs
- Met with the Mayor and City departments
- Looked at short-term and long-term solutions

# Where we're going



## **Community Engagement Team**

Introduction - **Ana Gonzalez**

1. Infrastructure - **Bill Paille and Alicia Bowman**
2. Traffic Calming - **Sgt. Jay Babcock**
3. Beautification - **Elaine Gentile**
4. Businesses - **Amanda Stout**
5. Parking - **Candace Havens**
6. Village Day - **Linda Plaut**

# 1. Infrastructure



**BILL PAILLE, P.E., DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**ALICIA BOWMAN, PEDESTRIAN COORDINATOR**

# Existing Conditions - Sidewalks



**Uneven/Cracked Surface  
(Watertown at Adams – Looking East)**



**Uneven Surface**



**Uneven Surface/Narrow Width**



**No Separation Between Parking/Walk  
(Watertown at Adams – Looking West)**



**Uneven/Cracked Surface  
(Watertown Near Swartz Hardware)**



# Existing Conditions - Crosswalks



**Longitudinal Joint Within Xwalk  
(Watertown at Bridge – Facing South)**



**Tripping Hazard Within Xwalk  
(Watertown at Dalby – Facing South)**



**Uneven/Cracked Surface Within Xwalk  
(Watertown at Dalby – Facing West)**



**Uneven/Cracked Surface Within Xwalk  
(Watertown at Dalby – Facing East)**



**No Crosswalk/Stop Line Markings  
(Watertown at West – Facing East)**



**Uneven Surface at Base of Ramp**

# Existing Conditions – Wheelchair Ramps and Drives



**Tripping Hazard at Base of Ramp**



**No Separation Between Parking/Walk  
(Watertown at Cook – Facing West)**



**Xwalk Markings Lead to Curb**



**Uneven Surface Across Drive**



**Uneven/Cracked Surface Within Xwalk**



**No Separation Between Parking/Walk**



# Existing Conditions – Obstructions



# Existing Conditions - Signs



**Missing Stop Sign  
(Watertown at Cook)**



**Undersized "Parking" Wayfinding Sign  
(Watertown at Chapel)**



**Missing Stop Sign  
(Watertown at Chapel)**



**Missing Stop Sign  
(Watertown at West – Facing East)**



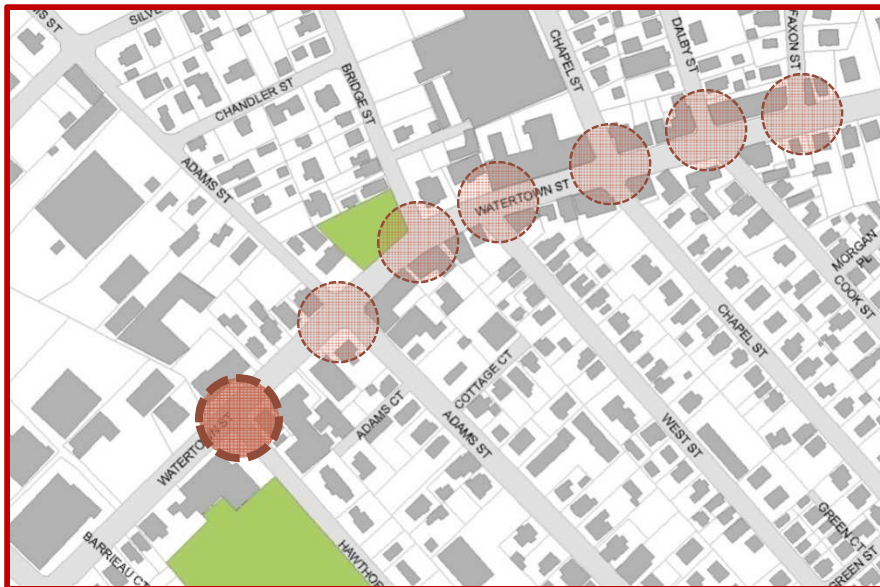
**Undersized "Parking" Wayfinding Sign  
(Watertown at Chapel)**



# Crosswalk and Intersection Improvements



# Watertown Street & Hawthorn Street



## Solution

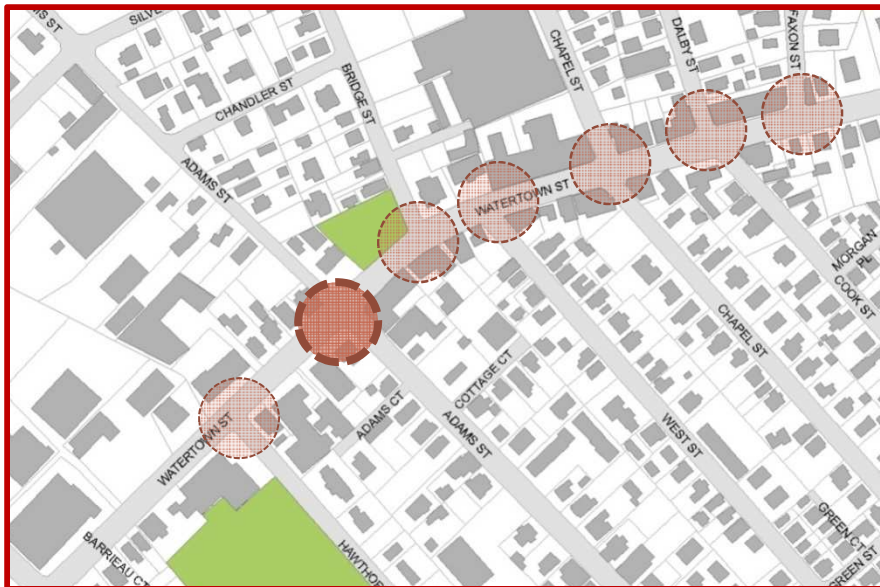
Install new wheelchair ramps with detectable warning panels

Crosswalk and ped crossing signs west of intersection

## Estimated Start

TBD

# Watertown Street & Adams Street



## Solution

Repaint existing  
east/west x-walk  
on Watertown

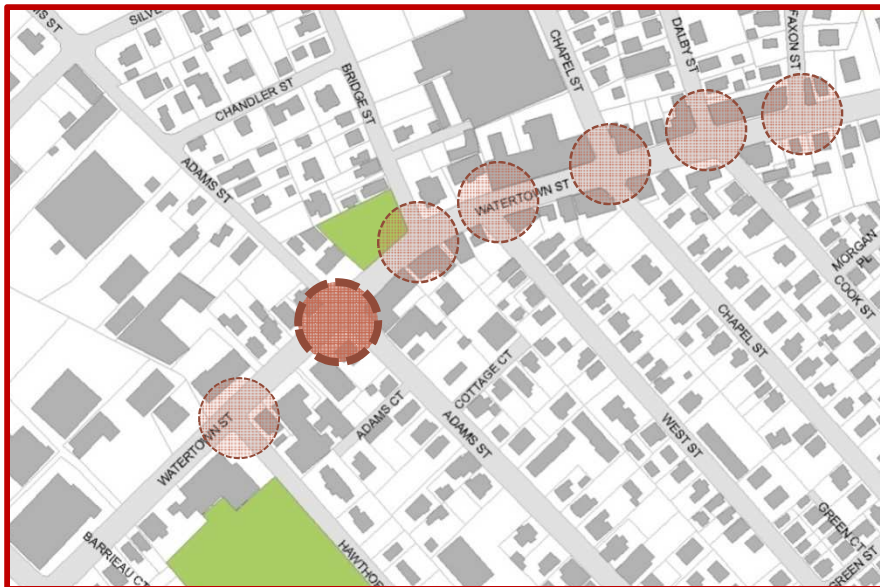
Replace existing  
parking wayfinding  
signs with larger  
signs

## Estimated Start

Spring 2013

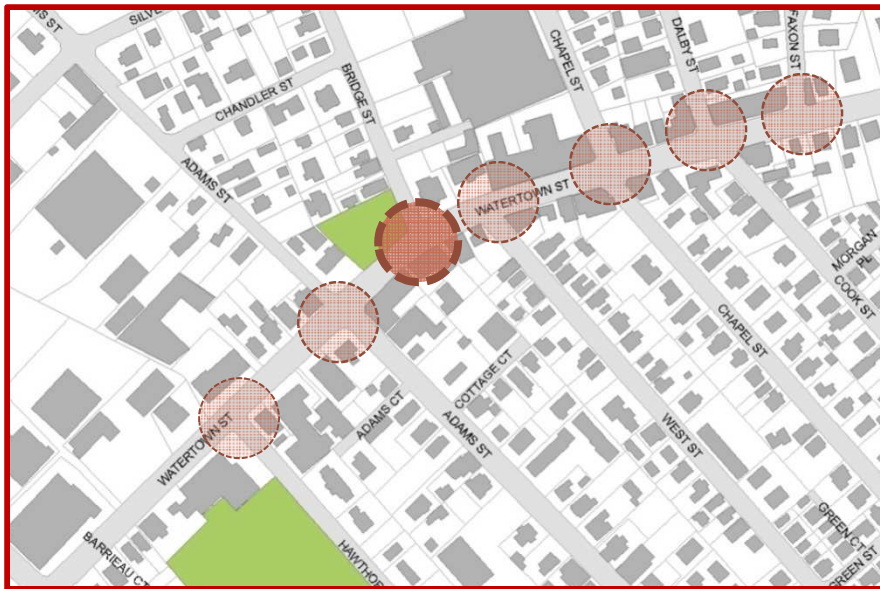


# Watertown Street & Adams Street



Solution	Estimated Start
Replace existing wheelchair ramps & add warning panels	TBD
Repair existing pavement & paint x-walks	
Replace sidewalk & construct separation along Dunkin Donuts site	

# Watertown Street & Bridge Street



Solution	Estimated Start
Repaint existing x-walk on Watertown	Spring 2013
Repaint existing x-walk on Bridge St	
Docket “no left turn” sign for Traffic Council review	

# Watertown Street & West Street



## Solution

Install new x-walk

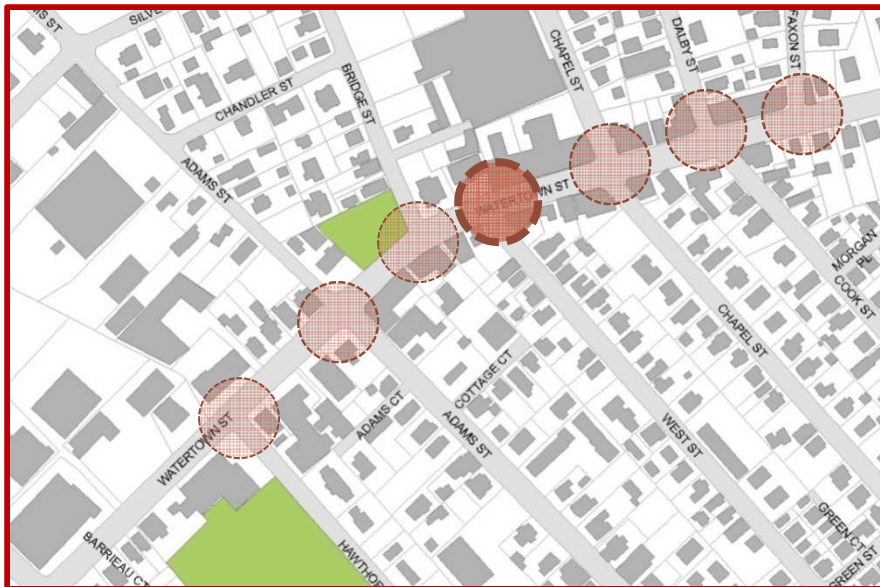
Install new stop line  
& stop sign (once  
approved by Traffic  
Council)

## Estimated Start

Spring 2013

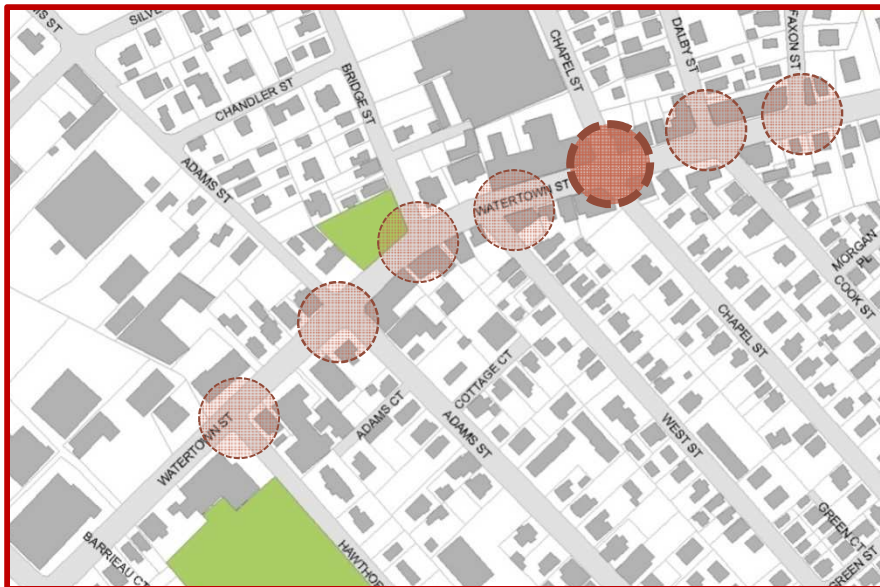


# Watertown Street & West Street



Solution	Estimated Start
Install new warning panels at each existing wheelchair ramp	TBD

# Watertown Street & Chapel Street



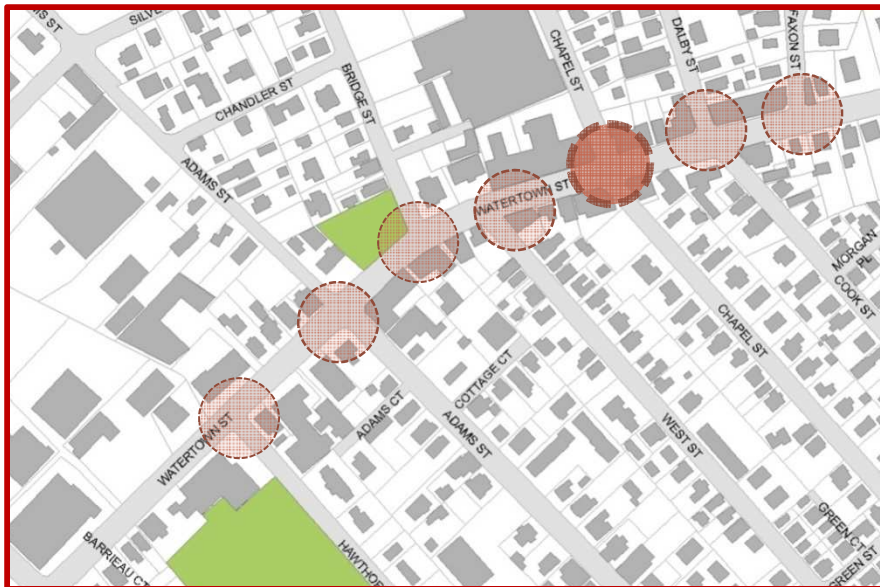
## Solution

Repaint existing  
east/west x-walk  
and stop lines

## Estimated Start

Spring 2013

# Watertown Street & Chapel Street



## Solution

Replace existing wheelchair ramps & install new warning panels

Repair existing pavement & paint new x-walks

## Estimated Start

TBD

# Watertown Street & Cook/Dalby Streets



## Solution

Repaint existing x-walk at Dalby

Repaint existing x-walk at Cook

Install new stop sign at Cook

## Estimated Start

Spring 2013

# Watertown Street & Cook/Dalby Streets



Solution	Estimated Start
Replace existing wheelchair ramps & install new warning panels	TBD
Reconfigure one driveway	
Repair pavement & paint new x-walks	



# Watertown Street & Faxon Street



Solution	Estimated Start
Repaint existing x-walks	Spring 2013
Install new pedestrian crossing signs	

# Watertown Street & Faxon Street



## Solution

Install new warning panels at NW and NE wheelchair ramps

Replace existing wheelchair ramp & install warning panel on South ramp

## Estimated Start

TBD

## 2. Traffic Calming



**SGT. JAY BABCOCK, NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**



# Speeding Along Adams Street



# Adams Street



Solution	Estimated Start
Install additional speed limit signs	Spring 2013
Repaint existing crosswalk and install new pedestrian crossing signs	

# 3. Beautification



**ELAINE GENTILE, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**



# **Streetscape Beautification**

## **“Keeping Newton Beautiful”**



**To initiate, promote, coordinate and implement quality beautification projects within the village/city street/open space areas, mainly through village business districts that improve the appearance of newton for people who have invested their lives here and people visiting in conjunction with citizens, schools, community based organizations, businesses.**

**WHAT DO RESIDENTS SEE?**

**WHAT SHOULD RESIDENTS SEE?**



# Trees & Tree Pits



# Streetscape Beautification

## TREE PITS

### What we observed:

Approx 50 tree pits in  
need of maintenance:

### Solution:

Cobble stones to be  
removed due to  
tripping hazards

Replace with mulch,  
flowers or other  
material compatible to  
trees







# Streetscape Beautification

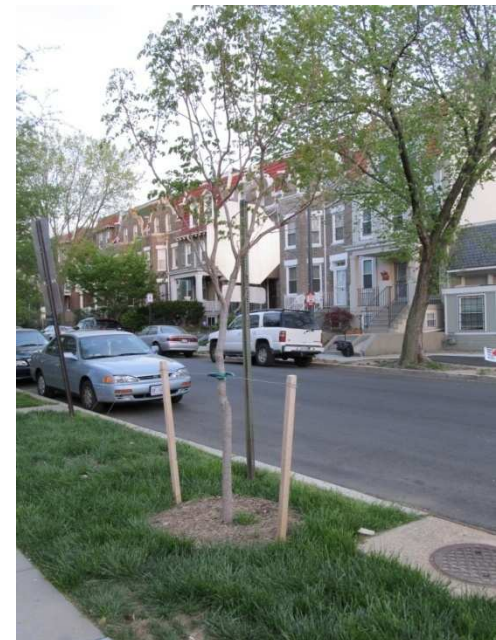
## MISSING TREES

### What we observed:

10 missing trees

### Possible Solution:

Plant missing trees with 1.5-2.5" caliper; to be determined by Director of Forestry Operations



# Streetscape Beautification

## TRASH CANS

### What we observed:

Several older type trash barrels, no recycling

### Solution:

New steel trash can,  
either N'Ville or Comm  
Ave style or your choice  
– 10-12 sites

New recycling cans







# Streetscape Beautification

## UNPAINTED OBJECTS

### What we observed:

Objects needing paint

Fire boxes, water hydrants, parking meter poles, street sign poles, curbing, etc.

### Solution:

Scrape and paint





# Streetscape Beautification

## SAFETY ITEMS

### What we observed:

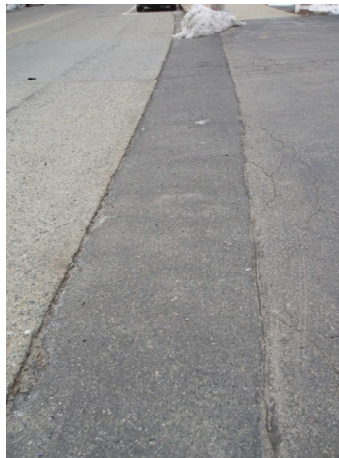
119 sidewalk panels  
need repair

7 areas - crosswalks  
need to meet ADA  
requirements

3,080 feet of gutter line  
uneven with street

### Possible Solution:

To be determined





# Streetscape Beautification

## BoxART

What we observed:

3 unpainted utility boxes

Solution:

Paint 3 utility boxes with  
BoxART ; maybe  
depicting life in  
Nonantum



# Streetscape Beautification

## PLANTINGS

What we observed:

No plantings

Some businesses have  
plantings

**Solution:**

To be determined







# Streetscape Beautification

## PLANTINGS

Possible Solutions:

To be determined







# Streetscape Beautification

## PLANTINGS

Possible Solutions:  
To be determined





# Streetscape Beautification LIGHTING

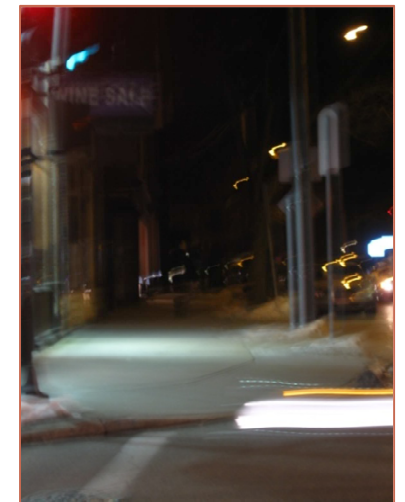
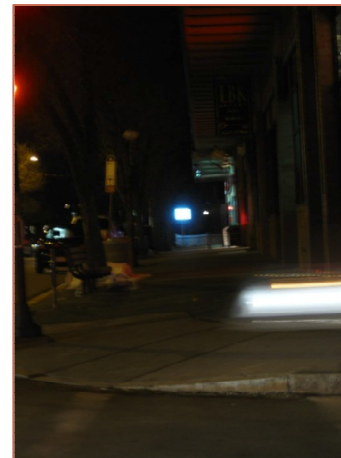
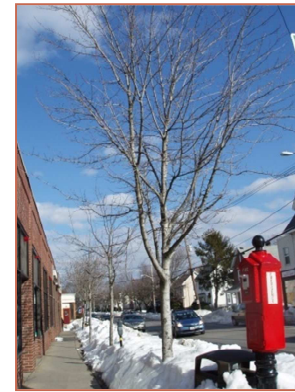
## What we observed:

Trees vary in size

Typical street lights

Area has varying  
degrees of light/dark

No village lighting other  
than street lights, some  
businesses have window  
lighting





# Streetscape Beautification

## LIGHTING

We were asked about:

Specialty Lights?

At California St; Park

3,080 lf @ 80' - 100'  
spacing, electrical  
constraints

Mini or Twinkle Lights?

50 trees, varying sizes,  
electrical constraints

Possible Solution: To be  
determined



# Streetscape Beautification

## TRAFFIC ISLANDS

### What we observed:

4 traffic islands at  
Washington and Adams  
Streets, all cement

### Possible Solutions:

Plantings, groundcover,  
flower pots







# Streetscape Beautification

## PARKING LOTS

### What we observed:

Two parking lots  
(Adams and Chapel) in  
need of some additional  
upgrade

### Possible Solutions:

Plantings, mulch,  
groundcover

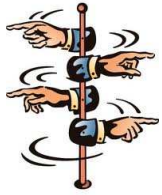


Adams Street



Chapel Street





# Streetscape Beautification

## “Keeping Newton Beautiful”



### Short-Term Solutions

- Painting utility, traffic, fire boxes, fire hydrants, street sign poles
- Painting street and island curbing
- Remove cobble stones around trees; mulch or other amenities
- Replace barrels with decorative and recycling
- BoxART

### Possible Long-Term Solutions

- In plant 10 trees
- Sidewalks: crosswalks, ADA panels, panel repair
- Street repairs: gutter amenity
- Plantings in traffic islands
- Parking Lots
- Plantings: planters, garden boxes, hangers
- Lighting – specialty and mini
- Street panel repair

# Streetscape Beautification

## “Keeping Newton Beautiful”



Nonantum village is an interesting, vibrant community; history, lots of culture, good selection of stable businesses.

There are decisions to be made about beautification and we need your help.

We can't do this without you.

## 4. Businesses



**CANDACE HAVENS, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**  
**AMANDA STOUT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNER**



# Businesses

What we  
observed:

Confusion about  
Sign Ordinance



# Façade Improvement Program



Proposed Program	Proposed Grants/Loans	Next Steps
<p>Planning Department proposing a Façade Improvement Program</p> <p>CDBG Target Areas, starting with Nonantum</p> <p>Eligible businesses must serve residents of target neighborhood &amp; meet other criteria</p>	<p>Architectural Design Grant</p> <p>Minor Improvement Grant</p> <p>Deferred Forgivable Loan</p>	<p>Planning &amp; Development Board</p> <p>Public Hearing on March 21st</p>



# Sidewalk Café Ordinance



## Proposed Program

Administrative review process to allow outdoor seating at restaurants in nice weather

## Next Steps

Zoning and Planning Committee approval

Businesses: contact City staff with questions

# 5. Parking



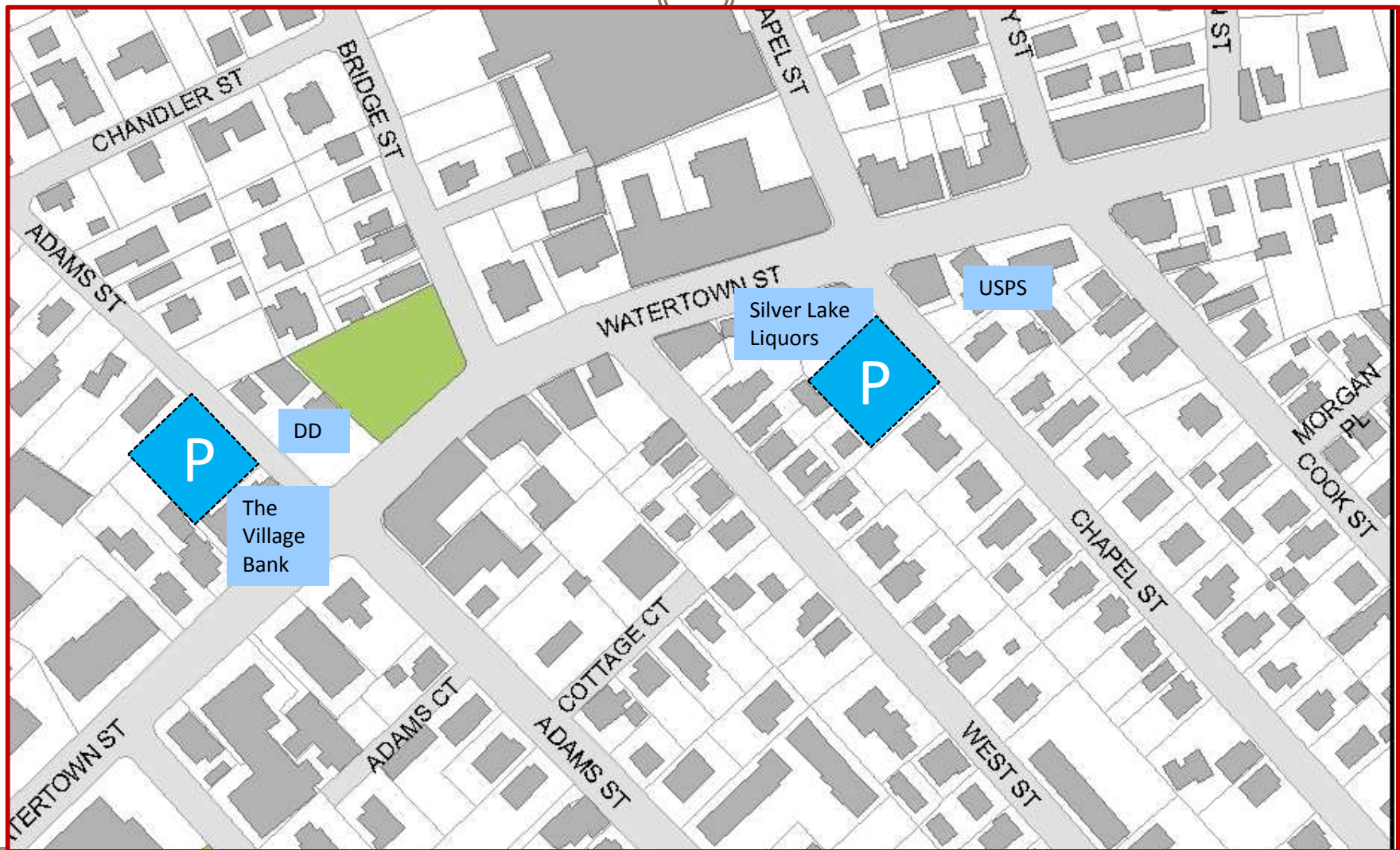
**CANDACE HAVENS, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**



# Parking Management Plan



# Free Municipal Parking Lots



# City-wide Wayfinding Plan



- Request for Proposals out now
- <http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/purchasing/current.asp>



# 6. Village Day



**LINDA PLAUT, DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS**



# Village Day



## Proposed Program

Nonantum Neighborhood Association taking lead in organizing

## Timeframe

Planning and Fundraising:  
Now

Event:  
Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> and  
Sunday,  
June 2<sup>nd</sup>

## Next Steps

Set meeting dates and agenda, decide on program, etc.

# Ways To Get Involved

Streetscape Committee	Nonantum Neighborhood Association (NNA)	Nonantum CDBG Neighborhood Advisory Committee	Business Association
Meet with City staff to give input on beautification topics discussed tonight.	Assist with planning Village Day and other activities	Participate in recommendations for CDBG funding. Meets quarterly	Facilitate communication & organization to foster economic development
Businesses and Residents  Sign up tonight!	Businesses and Residents  Terry Sauro, NNA President, president@nonantum.net www.nonantum.net	Residents (Appointed by Mayor)  James Kupfer, Community Development Planner, 617-796-1139 or jkupfer@newtonma.gov	Businesses  Sign up tonight to help take the lead!

# Comments and Questions?

